



Climate change and consequences in the Arctic: Perception of climate change by the Nenets people of Vaigach Island

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Abstract:

BACKGROUND: Arctic climate change is already having a significant impact on the environment, economic activity, and public health. For the northern peoples, traditions and cultural identity are closely related to the natural environment so any change will have consequences for society in several ways. **METHODS:** A questionnaire was given to the population on the Vaigach island, the Nenets who rely to a large degree on hunting, fishing and reindeer herding for survival. Semi-structured interviews were also conducted about perception of climate change. **RESULTS:** Climate change is observed and has already had an impact on daily life according to more than 50% of the respondents. The winter season is now colder and longer and the summer season colder and shorter. A decrease in standard of living was noticeable but few were planning to leave. **CONCLUSION:** Climate change has been noticed in the region and it has a negative impact on the standard of living for the Nenets. However, as of yet they do not want to leave as cultural identity is important for their overall well-being.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3217310>

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Public

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Glacier/Snow Melt, Human Conflict/Displacement, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Arctic, Ocean/Coastal

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Country

Other Asian Country: Russia

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Racial/Ethnic Subgroup

Other Racial/Ethnic Subgroup: Northern indigenous peoples

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified